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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,311	10/31/2003	Masaru Takahashi	16869P-097000US	5432
20350 7590 11/27/2007 TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER EIGHTH FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834			EXAMINER SHIBRU, HELEN	
			ART UNIT 2621	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/27/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/700,311

Applicant(s)

TAKAHASHI ET AL.

Examiner

HELEN SHIBRU

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. The amendments, filed 09/05/2007, have been entered and made of record. Claims 1-18 are pending.

***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murase (US Pat. No. 6,285,826) in view of Shachar (US PG PUB 2005/0005305 A1).

Regarding claim 1, Murase discloses a recording/reproducing apparatus capable of transmitting information recorded on a record medium to an external device, comprising: a recording/reproducing circuit which records information on and reproduces information from the record medium (see figs. 34 and 40); a transmitting circuit which transmits the information to the external device (see fig. 40 and col. 27 lines 13-26); and a control circuit which controls workings of the recording/reproducing circuit and the transmitting circuit (see fig. 40 component 7802); wherein the recording/reproducing circuit records reproduction path information of information

to be transmitted on the record medium and reproduces the information from the record medium according to path information, and wherein the transmitting circuit transmits the information according to path information (see abstract, col. 9 lines 61-65, col. 23 lines 34-58, col. 27 lines 13-26, col. 28 lines 9-14, and claim 2).

Claim 1 differs from Murase in that the claim further requires a first transmitting circuit which transmits the information to a display and an external network to transmit information to the external device.

In the same field of endeavor Shachar discloses transmitting information to the external device via external network and display video by a local video output device (see claim 31 and figs 2-3B). Shachar further teaches host 102 in fig. 1 include a personal computer, a laptop, and any other suitable machine having a central processing unit (see paragraphs 0028-0029). Shachar further discloses controller 302 which receives and transmits control signals from and to internal bus and other units connected to the internal bus (see 0041 and claim 30). Therefore in light of the teaching in Shachar it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Murase by providing a display and an external network in order to nullify the potential for malfunctioning due to recourse definition collisions.

Regarding claim 2, Murase discloses the recording/reproducing apparatus comprises a signal conversion circuit which converts the signal format of the reproduced information into another signal format for transmission to the external device (see fig. 40 and col. 27 lines 13-26, data are decoded for transmission purpose).

Regarding claim 3, Murase discloses the reproduction path information includes transmitting event information including a date and time of transmission, destination information, and information related to a signal format of the information to be transmitted (see fig. 10, col. 9 lines 43-55, col. 11 lines 60-65, col. 16 lines 6-18, and claim 3).

Regarding claim 4, Murase discloses the recording/reproducing apparatus includes a display for the path information, and creates the path information using the display of information to be transmitted specified by a user, the user selects path information corresponding to the information to be transmitted from among the path information displayed on the display section; and the transmitting circuit transmits information according to the selected reproduction path information (see abstract, col. 9 lines 61-65, col. 23 lines 34-58, col. 25 line 59-col. 26 line 5, col. 27 lines 13-26, col. 28 lines 9-14, and claim 2. See also rejection of claim 1 above).

Regarding claim 5, Murase discloses the recording/reproducing apparatus displays a message on the display section asking if the information to be transmitted specified by the user should be recorded on the record medium as path information, records the path information on the record medium when the user has chosen to record it as path information; and does not record the path information on the record medium when the user has chosen not to record it as path information (see col. 28 lines 1-18).

Regarding claim 6, Murase discloses the recording/reproducing apparatus displays path information read from the record medium on the display section, displays a message, when the user has selected path information, asking if information should be transmitted according to

the path information selected by the user, reproduces information according to the selected path information from the record medium and transmits it via said second transmitting circuit, when the user has chosen to transmit, and reproduces information according to the selected path information from the record medium but does not transmit it via said second transmitting circuit, when the user has chosen not to transmit (see figs. 41-42 and 45, and col. 26 line 22-col. 27 line 11. See also claim 1 rejection above).

Regarding claim 7, Murase discloses the information comprises image data (see abstract).

Claims 8, 11, and 17 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 1 above.

Claims 9 and 13 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 3 above.

Claims 10 and 18 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 7 above.

Claim 12 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 2 above.

Claims 14-16 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claims 4-6 respectively above.

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Tanaka (US PG PUB 2004/0156082).

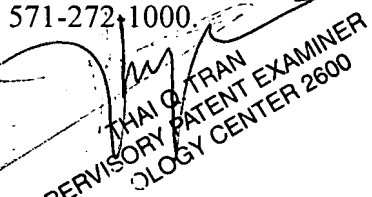
6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HELEN SHIBRU whose telephone number is (571) 272-7329. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, THAI Q. TRAN can be reached on (571) 272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
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